

Message Text

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11

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 EB-11 AID-20 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /173 W

----- 127967

O 030800Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 937

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOSAIRES IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAPAZ IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORTAUPRINCE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USUN NEWYORK IMMEDIATE 9426

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4090

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: 55TH ECOSOC - WEST ASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION

1. AMBASSADOR FERGUSON HAD MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR SCOTT (CHAIRMAN, ECONOMIC COMMITTEE) AND AMBASSADOR GHORRA (LEBANON) ON SUBJECT ITEM.

2. AMBASSADOR FERGUSON STATED IN FULL US POSITION REGARDING COMPETENCE ECOSOC TO REQUEST ICJ OPINION AND US VIEWS ON PRIORITY ICJ RES OVER LEBANESE RES.

3. AMBASSADOR GHORRA ADMITTING US POSITION "ARGUEABLE" SAID THAT ARABS FELT COMPELLED TO CONTEST BOTH ISSUES. HE AGREED PARA 4 ICJ RESOLUTION STANDING ALONE WOULD BE PROCEDURAL BUT ASSERTED REST OF RESOLUTION SUBSTANTIVE AND HENCE ARABS MIGHT MOVE SEPARATE VOTE ON 4 AND REST OF RESOLUTION.

4. FERGUSON REPLIED HE PREPARED TO DEMONSTRATE ENTIRE RES OR ANY PART PROCEDURAL. MOREOVER, INDICATED THAT IF RULING WENT AGAINST US POSITION ON PRIORITY RESOLUTION WOULD STILL BE PRESSED EVEN AFTER VOTE ON LEBANESE RES.

5. SCOTT INDICATED HE RELUCTANT TO RULE ON "SUCH COMPLEX SUBTLE ISSUE". SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT ASK COMMITTEE TO DECIDE QUESTION OF PRIORITY. FERGUSON VIGOROUSLY OBJECTED INDICATING CHAIR WOULD BE ABANDONING ITS DUTY. SCOTT THEN SAID IF HE MUST RULE HE WOULD FEEL IMPELLED TO REQUEST LEGAL ADVICE FROM STAVROPOULOS. SCOTT DID NOT INDICATE WHICH OF TWO COURSES HE INTENDS TO PURSUE OR WHAT HIS RULING WOULD BE IN THE EVENT HE UNDERTAKES TO RULE.

6. FERGUSON INDICATED HIS INTENTION TO RAISE POINT OF ORDER IMMEDIATELY AFTER DEBATE CLOSURE REQUESTING CHAIR TO RULE ON PRIORITY AND SUPPORTING REQUEST WITH FULL ARGUMENT OUR POSITION. ALSO INFORMED SCOTT IF RULING WENT AGAINST USG WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEEK REVERSAL ON FLOOR.

7. AMBASSADOR FERGUSON ALSO INFORMED AMBASSADORS SCOTT AND GHORRA THAT HE HAD BECOME AWARE OF THE FACT THAT NUMBER OF ARAB STATES INTENDS TO CO-SPONSOR LEBANESE RESOLUTION AND THAT SEVERAL OF THESE STATES ARE NOT MEMBERS OF ECOSOC OR COMMITTEE OR ACCREDITED AS OBSERVERS. AMBASSADOR STATED THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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IF SUCH STATES APPEARED AS CO-SPONSORS MATTER OF LEGALITY LEBANESE RESOLUTION WOULD BE RAISED ON FLOOR.

8. BOTH SCOTT AND GHORRA HIGHLY APPRECIATIVE USG REVEALING ITS INTENTIONS PRIOR TO MEETING ON SUBJECT ITEM. BASSIN

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